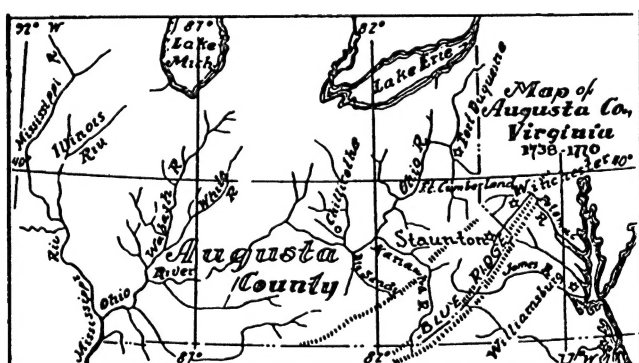


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JED HOTCHKISS

AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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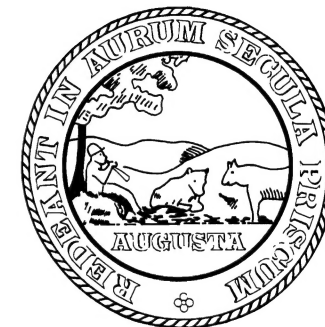
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NOTICE

Dues are assessed for each calendar year. Notices of dues are sent in November prior to the year in which due. This is done to allow you to pay and take the income tax deduction in the year you prefer. Members who have not paid by February first are re-billed. Members who have not paid by May first are dropped from membership.

It is urgent that the society be promptly notified of changes of address. Bulletins which cannot be delivered by the postal service will not be forwarded due to high postage rates.

Publications for sale by Augusta County Historical Society

Augusta County Historical Atlas, by Jos. A. Waddell & Jed Hotchkiss. 3rd reprinting 1991 \$35.00 plus \$2.75 shipping & handling; \$1.57 Virginia sales tax, where applicable.

Augusta County History; 1865-1950, by Richard K. MacMaster, \$33.85 postpaid.

Shirey's Guide Book to Augusta County, Staunton and Waynesboro, Virginia by Paul C. Shirey, \$1.75 plus \$.08 sales tax where applicable.

Great Valley Patriots, by Howard M. Wilson, \$15.00 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling; \$.68 sales tax where applicable.

Augusta Declarations of 1775. \$3.00 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling; \$.14 sales tax where applicable

Copies of this issue to all members

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In Memoriam

New Members

A purpose of the Augusta County Historical Society is to publish *Augusta Historical Bulletin* to be sent without charge to all members. Single issues are available at \$4.00 per copy.

The membership of the society is composed of annual and life members who pay the following dues beginning January 1991:

Annual (individual)	\$10.00
Annual (family)	\$10.00
Annual (sustaining)	\$30.00
Life Membership	\$150.00
Annual (Institutional)	\$10.00
Contributing — Any amount	

MIGRATION TO THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY*

by

Katherine Gentry Bushman

In order to organize material for presentation today, it was necessary to ask myself several questions:

- When did migration to the Shenandoah Valley begin?
- Who migrated to the Valley?
- Why did they come?
- Where did they come from into the Valley?
- Where did they settle?
- How did they obtain their lands?
- Where did they go from the Valley?
- What other aspects of migration are there since the 18th century?
- Is there still migration to the Valley?

What you will hear are the answers to the questions posed.

The first permanent settler to the valley is recorded as Morgan Morgan, a Welshman, who came from Pennsylvania in 1726 to settle and build his cabin in what is now Berkeley County, West Virginia. The second known permanent settler was Adam Miller, a German, who came in 1727, settling in the area of what is now Rockingham County near Elkton. His first home was north of Elkton. By 1730, Jacob Stover, a Swiss, obtained a grant of 10,000 acres in the Massanutten, in two lots, along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. The people he brought to the area were Germans & Swiss. Among them were both Lutherans and Mennonites. In 1923, Harry Strickler made a map of the Stover grant showing location of those who purchased land. Adam Miller also purchased of him, as did Mathias Selzer, both of whom were Lutheran. Also purchasing were John Rhodes, Michael Kauffman, and Abram Strickler, all Mennonites. Jacob Stover's grant was recorded in Spotsylvania County in 1730. I brought a copy of the map today should anyone be interested in looking at it. In 1732, Jost Hite, a native of Strasburg, purchased land in what is Frederick County on Opeckon Creek from the Van Meters. At the same time in the upper Valley, John Lewis settled in what became Augusta County, after fleeing from Ireland. After 1736, his land was in what is called the Beverley Grant, some 118,491 acres. In 1736, Benjamin Borden, who lived in Frederick County area, obtained a patent for 92,000 acres in present Rockbridge County, Virginia, with a small portion in Augusta County.

Also in the northern valley, north of Winchester, was a Quaker settlement on a land warrant surveyed by Alexander Ross. The best known source of land in the Frederick, Shenandoah, Hampshire and Berkeley area was the Fairfax grant, also known as Northern Neck grants. Records have been compiled of the grants by Gertrude Gray, and published by the Genealogical Publishing Company. Four volumes on the warrants and surveys have been published by Peggy Joyner. Volume I contains records of Orange County and Augusta County from 1730-1754. Orange County came into being in 1734 from Spotsylvania County. Augusta and Frederick counties were both created in 1738 from Orange. Until 1755, when the Fairfax line was established by Frye and Jefferson, you do find records of Augusta County of lands that today are as far north as Woodstock. The Fairfax line

*Presented at the Fall 1992 Meeting of the Society

remains as the boundary between Shenandoah and Rockingham counties. When using Survey Book I in the Augusta County Clerk's office, it is interesting to see notations at the bottom of certain surveys stating "not claimed by Fairfax." Volume II, Frederick County, has warrants and surveys from 1747-1780. Also in Augusta County in 1743, you have additional grants to William Beverley on the Calfpasture—one for 10,500 acres, the other for 10,000. Also in 1743, James Patton and John Lewis had a grant on the Calfpasture for 10,500 acres. On 12 July, 1749, by Order of Council, some 800,000 acres of land was granted to a company of men, among whom were John Lewis and his son, Thomas Lewis. This land is in what we call today, southwest Virginia and embraced several present day counties there. This became known as the Loyal Land Company, and also embraced what was known as the Greenbrier Company. By 1754, through their agent, Dr. Thomas Walker, they had settled some 200 families there at 3 pounds per 100 acres. It should be noted that from 1754 until about 1768, this area was without settlers because of the French-Indian War. In the chancery suit, Loyal Company Successors vs. French, you find the names of the purchasers of the land—many are names not found in Augusta County records. They have been published in the Augusta Historical Bulletin in the Fall 1970 issue, as well as by Mary B. Kegley in *Early Adventurers on the Western Waters*, Volume I. Another entrepreneur of land in Southwest Virginia before 1770, was Colonel James Patton, who sold land in what is now the Botetourt-Roanoke, Montgomery County area. His estate settlement has many references to money owed by people who had purchased from him before his death in 1755. These were the agents who assisted in bringing settlers to Virginia west of the Blue Ridge, and who made it easier for purchases of land to be made. So, there were land entrepreneurs in both the lower and upper valleys before 1745. Who were the people who migrated? Primarily Ulster Scots and Germans, Swiss, with a sprinkling of English, Welsh, French and Holland Dutch. The northern, or lower valley, was settled early by the Germans and Ulster Scots—known later as the Scotch-Irish. The Germans had a folk culture characteristically their own—they were sober, stolid, industrious and careful farmers. The Ulster Scots were more predominant in the central and upper valley area. In fact, Augusta County was known as the Irish tract. They were passionately attached to individual freedom, devoted to education, often contentious and headstrong. The many drawers of judgments in the Augusta County Clerk's office attest to the contentious part of their characters. Several years ago, the Mormons came to Augusta County to investigate microfilming the judgments. When they saw the many rows of drawers they withdrew—would have been too expensive. A common denominator among the Irish and Germans was their being what was known as Dissenters. Not being in the established church gave them limited status under the law. It can be said that the Valley was an early melting pot of diverse cultures. An interesting bit of history concerns the first Vestry of Augusta Parish. Composed of 12 men, only 2 members were known to be of the established church: John Madison, the first clerk of Augusta, and Captain John Smith. John Mathews and John Archer were supposed to be members of the established church. The other 8: James Patton, Col. John Buchanan, Patrick Hays, John Christian, John Buchanan, Robert Alexander, Thomas Gordon and James Lockhart were all Presbyterians. The first two churchwardens were Robert Alexander and James Lockhart, both Presbyterians. Among the first justices of Augusta County, there was one German: Peter Scholl(Shull) who lived in that area below the Fairfax line after 1754 in Frederick County. With land available even to those making small purchases from the grant holders, you find those coming into the valley were able to obtain land without having to travel to Williamsburg. There were still many outside of Beverley Manor lines and the Calfpasture grant lines who obtained land grants. From 1738 to November 1745, the deeds were recorded in Orange County, since Augusta County was not

organized until November 1745. You will find that the names were nearly all Ulster Scots. Deeds by William Beverley and his sons and grandsons are recorded on 29 pages of the Augusta County grantor index after 1745—with 42 lines to an index page, it makes a tidy number of sales. The last Beverley deed was recorded in 1856. There are 10 deed book grantor index pages by the Borden estate, ranging from 1746 to 1839 in Augusta County. A list of Borden deeds is recorded in Chalkley, Records of Augusta County, Virginia, 1745-1800, in Volume I. They are deeds recorded in Orange County. It is evident that the migration just to two areas of the upper valley was very heavy. Before the Revolution there were very few who came over the mountains from eastern Virginia into the upper valley. It is my understanding that Clarke County in the lower valley was an enclave of English settlement. For the upper valley, the mountains were a barrier. John Madison and Gabriel Jones, the noted valley lawyer, were two who did come from east of the Blue Ridge. Why did they come to the Valley? Many came because they were welcome—Virginia wanted settlers for westward expansion, and as a buffer between eastern Virginia and the Indians. Many came because they could obtain land easily by purchase, and did not have to buy large tracts of land. Where did they come from? The 18th century pattern of migration was from the north: Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, even Long Island. After arriving in Pennsylvania, many immigrants were finding it difficult to obtain land. There are records showing when and where they came from. For the Germans and other nationalities, there are published lists. A very good source is Strassberger-Hinke, Pennsylvania-German Pioneers, 1708-1808, which contains ships lists, as well as those taking the oath of abjuration when they arrived from overseas. Orange County, Virginia, has Proofs of Importation from 1734-1745 showing that they either imported themselves or were imported by others. These were necessary in order to obtain legal right to hold title to land in the colony. Dr. Howard Wilson published one list in his book, The Tinkling Spring, Headwater of Freedom. The Virginia Genealogical Society has also published a list with more complete notes on many of the names found in Dr. Wilson's list. The society list contains place of origin and where they stopped before coming to Virginia. In that list, there are only 4 or 5 not stating Ireland as place of origin. In 1925 and 1926, Charles E. Kemper published in the William and Mary Quarterly, Series 2, Volumes 5 & 6, information on early settlers to Rockingham and Augusta counties as to where they had been living in Pennsylvania before coming to Virginia. References to Ireland are also found in wills—Will Book I, page 47, Augusta County, the will of Jean Buchanan proved in August, 1747, has a tablecloth she brought from Ireland being bequeathed. Judgments have mention in some instances not only to Ireland but also to places in Germany. Later chancery suits give Ireland as a place where relatives were still living—some wills even leave bequests to relatives overseas. The 1738 list of Beverley Manor purchasers contains names of 10 men who appear in Importation records: John Lewis, George Hutchinson, James Caldwell, Andrew McClure, James Davis, Patrick Campbell, Thomas Henderson, Samuel Givens, John Anderson, Samuel Guy (Gay), Samuel Davison. Augusta County Court Order books after 1745 show 8 proofs of importation: John Preston, in 1746, stating that he came directly to Virginia. It is proved that James Patton brought a ship load of 65 from Ireland in 1738 directly to Alexandria. Other importations were Mary Elliott in 1751, from Great Britain; Frederick Fitzjarril in 1751 from Great Britain; James Crow in 1763; Isabella Scott, Frances McNutt and James Scott and Robert Cowardin in 1771.

The counties in Pennsylvania from which pioneer settlers came were Philadelphia, Chester, Bucks, Lancaster, and York. A recent publication on the Scots-Irish is God's Frontiersmen: The Scots-Irish Epic, by Rory Fitzpatrick, published in July 1989 by George Weidenfeld &

Nicolson Ltd., 91 Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7TA England, in association with Channel Four Television and Ulster Television. The book is a companion to the television series of the same name that made its debut in the British Isles in 1989. Segments of the series were filmed in Staunton and Augusta County in the summer of 1987. The book takes the Ulster Scots from the Scottish lowlands in the 17th century to settle in northern Ireland and continues the saga of their descendants in Ulster, the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand down to the present day. A source of information on names in the Valley from the Potomac to Augusta County before 1745 and where they were located is Road Orders of Orange County, 1734-1749, by Ann Brush Miller, published in 1984 by the Virginia Highway and Transportation Research Council in Charlottesville. After it was published, Richard Hamrick and I made separate searches of the book for all references to the Shenandoah Valley. We found entries from 23 April 1737 to 28 September 1745. Remember that Frederick was organized in 1743 and Augusta not until November 1745. After securing permission, we published the road orders referring to the Valley in the Augusta Historical Bulletin, Spring 1986, Vol 22, #1.

Settlers moved westward beyond the boundaries of the Valley until the French-Indian War. That was another characteristic of the Scotch-Irish—they had the wanderlust. During the period of the war and even 5-6 years after its end, the westward areas of Greenbrier, Bath-Pendleton area were without people. In 1754, the number of tithables in Augusta County were 2663—by 1758 the number dropped to 1474. By 1768-1769, they began moving back into the areas west of the Alleghenies. Evidence of the number who had taken up unpatented lands before 1778 is shown in the Land Commission records for Augusta, Botetourt and Greenbrier. In 1977, a descendant of the secretary of the land commission, asked the Augusta County Historical Society to publish in the bulletin, the secretary's minutes.

By 1778, there were 2000 tithables in Augusta County—remember that in 1778 both Rockingham and Rockbridge counties had been created from Augusta. In 1770, Botetourt was set off from Augusta County, so the figure shows that the county was growing in population again. After the Revolution, there was again migration—this time westward into Kentucky and Tennessee from the Valley counties. Tennessee was still a part of North Carolina, but land could be obtained—if you study the North Carolina land grants in Tennessee from 1778-1791, you find many Valley names as well as names from other parts of Virginia. Kentucky records show many Valley names. The names in the history of Walnut Hill Presbyterian Church in Fayette County, Kentucky, read like the Long Glade of Augusta County—Alexander, Campbell and Bell among them. You find many Valley names in Bourbon, Jefferson, Madison, counties also. A resident of Christian County, Kentucky, told me that the county was populated almost entirely by Augusta Countians. Saline County, Missouri, was settled almost entirely by Augusta Countians. By 1778, there was also movement westward into Greenbrier and Kanawha areas, as well as the West Augusta area, even though the Revolution was being fought. By the early 1800s, you find migration by people of the Valley to Ohio country where they could buy land from the federal government for \$1.25 an acre—a section of land was 640 acres, but 1/2 sections and 1/4 sections could also be purchased. 36 sections comprised a township. People were moving in all directions except east—migration took place southward into Georgia and the Carolinas after the Revolution. I should point out that there is evidence of movement to the Carolinas before the Revolution. The movement shows up in deed records.

After the Revolution you find migration still coming from Pennsylvania to the Valley. One of the large families to come then was the Coiner family from Cumberland County. You also find migration within the Valley from the lower valley to the upper valley. Names like Fauber, Sieg, Whitesell, Hanger and Masincup moved from Shenandoah County, as did the Greavers, the Christian Beard family, as well as a branch of the Bauserman family. There is quite a list of names moving southward into Augusta County. A branch of the Bumgardner family moved just prior to the Revolution to Augusta County. Rockingham County also shows an influx from Shenandoah County, also there were some coming over the mountains from the Germanna Colony area.

In the early 1800s, you find migration from east of the Blue Ridge. People coming over the mountains from Fluvanna, Albemarle, Louisa, and Spotsylvania counties. This is true for not only Augusta County, but for Rockingham, Shenandoah and Frederick counties. In the Vesuvius area of Rockbridge County you have the Humphries family and the Blacks from Fluvanna, as well as the DePriest name. The Palmers came into Augusta County from Spotsylvania County as did the Smallwoods and Mayfields. Maupins and Harrises came from Albemarle—Louisa brought the Whitlocks and Clarks, just to name a few. Virginia, including the Valley, was a feeder of human resources to the western part of the United States, especially from 1783 to 1850. Those years were tremendously fluid ones when people were migrating west. The 1850 census of six western states shows that there was a total of 388,000 native born Virginians resident in them. Broken down, the figures read as follows: Kentucky=55000; Tennessee=47000; Ohio=86000; Indiana=42000; Illinois=25000; Missouri=41000.

Another source of information on migration is the record of naturalizations. I can speak for the records of Augusta County, having just finished searching 70 court order books to locate naturalizations from 1753-1902. 1906 is the cut off date since all naturalization records are to be found in federal courts from that date to the present time. Prior to 1906, naturalization took place in the nearest local court. The 18th century records do not give much information about the person. Being naturalized in Augusta County before 1790 indicates that the person did not take the oath of abjuration at the port of entry. Between 1753 and 1787, there were 46 recorded naturalizations, and of that number only 5 could be called other than German in origin. Congress enacted the first naturalization law in 1790. From 1799 to 1810, in Augusta County, John Kinnel, a Swiss; William Roach, William Wiley Douthat, William Adams and John Hoggans—all from Ireland—became citizens. Between 1836 and the end of 1850, 57 names are entered either declaring intent or becoming citizens—most from Ireland! The peak years for naturalization records in Augusta County are 1851-1863, when at least 300 (mostly Irish) made declaration of intent or became citizens. This was the period when the Virginia Central Railroad was being built through Augusta County westward.

It is most interesting to note that beginning October 1, 1861, the court order books state "Declaring intent to become a citizen of the Confederate States of America." The most unusual one recorded during the Confederacy was that of John King, native of Kentucky, declaring intent on 5 January 1863 to become a citizen of the Confederate States of America. It was not until 1867 that you again find entries for naturalization. Although the majority of entries were of Irish born, you do find Germans, Swiss, Italian, even one from Sardinia, as well as English born.

During the 1870s, the United States suffered what is called depression. Because of economic reasons—foreclosures, lack of employment, there was a loss of population to the midwest and far west of the country. While searching the old newspapers at the Staunton library (for something else), I came across a news item regarding the formation of an immigration society in Staunton on March 25, 1879. This was not for the purpose of helping people to go west, but to assist the Great Valley of Virginia to bring in new residents!

Immediately beneath the item was a story regarding the emigrant train from Hagerstown, Maryland, to Hays City, and Ellis, Kansas. The train had 146 passengers from Pennsylvania and Maryland—all going west! The news story states, "There seems to be a disposition on the part of a large number of persons in those 2 states to migrate, and we could call their attention to the Great Valley of Virginia (and Augusta County in particular) as a most inviting locality for them to settle in. Our lands are fertile, cheap and productive, and the Valley possesses advantages in the way of schools, churches and society equal to any other section on the continent." The next week's issue of the Staunton Spectator, April 8, 1879, contained the story on the organization of "Immigration and Direct Trade Association of the Valley of Virginia," and showed that it was made up of business and professional men of Staunton. Further research on the subject would be interesting to pursue. Was this the forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce in Staunton? The records show that it received its charter in 1885, some 6 years after this organization was formed.

In addition to the migration of the Ulster Scots and the Germans of the 18th century, the Irish of the 19th century, we should not forget that there was migration to the Valley by the blacks. Even though much of the migration was involuntary, the blacks being slaves, there are records of free blacks in the valley as early as 1752. The earliest record of slaves that I have found in Augusta County is in the will of Samuel Scott, Will Book I, page 140, proved in 1749, in which he made bequests of his slaves, called by name, to his wife and children. The earliest recorded free black is Nicholas Smith—in 1752 he moved from the county leaving 5 small children to be bound out (21 August 1752, Order Book 3, page 328). He evidently returned at some future time, but decided to run away again in 1766, leaving 3 more children to be bound out by the churchwardens. It is not known from where he came, but was probably from the north. In 1753, in October, the Moravian diarist travelling with other brothers from Pennsylvania to North Carolina, reported about the free black blacksmith in Augusta County. From distances recorded in the diary, it is assumed that the blacksmith lived south of Staunton in the area between present Greenville and Fairfield. This man had come from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in the previous summer, but had also lived in Philadelphia. He was educated—he read German and spoke it, was acquainted with the sermons of one of the famous Moravian preachers. The diarist states that his wife was born in Scotland. With all the information given about the blacksmith, the diarist still did not record his name! From records found in a will book and court order book in 1759, supposition can be made that the blacksmith was a Joseph Bell, mulatto, whose personalty was appraised by men living in that area of Augusta County—John Tate, Robert Wilson, Samuel Steel. In his personalty were a Bible and a history book—both indicating that he was able to read. Before 1800, you find records of 5 free blacks in Augusta County. As you know, I recently published the registers of the free blacks of Augusta County and the City of Staunton, Virginia, 1810-1864. Between 1800 and 1810, when the registers began, there were 18 free blacks listed as paying personal property taxes in Augusta County.

The registers of both Staunton and Augusta County are revealing about the origins of the free blacks. Because there was apparently a more liberal attitude in this area toward them, you find them coming from Culpeper, Cumberland, Frederick, Rockingham, Montgomery County, Maryland, the State of Ohio, Nelson, Goochland, Albemarle, Hanover, Henrico, Spotsylvania, Louisa, Madison, Stafford, Amherst, Shenandoah, Rockbridge, Westmoreland, Dinwiddie, and Monroe, to name just a few. There were some blacks emancipated in the 19th century, before 1850, who chose to leave immediately for Ohio in 1849. A descendant living in Springfield, Ohio, is working on the records of her family. There is also proof that at least one free black in Augusta County had a land grant in the North River area—Deed Book 59, page 135, 26 August 1837, David Hayse (colored man) and wife Edy, sold to Adam and Peter Daggy, 2 acres on the south side of North River of Shenandoah—land to Hayse by grant.

Another interesting record of blacks and where they originated in Virginia, is the Freedman's Bureau of Marriages of Blacks in 1866. In that year, black couples were allowed by law to record their marriages, even though some of them had taken place many years before. Names, ages, place of birth of each are all given, as well as occupation and place of residence. A further record in the book gives the names and ages of all the children of the couples. This was a paper notebook found in the clerk's office a good many years ago. Last year it was restored and placed in a permanent binder. We hope this year to restore the original register of free blacks of Augusta County. There are still residents of Staunton and Augusta County whose roots go back to the free blacks registered between 1810-1864.

We ask the question: Is there still migration in the Valley? Yes, very definitely! With the coming of much diversified industry in the Valley from the Potomac in West Virginia south to Augusta County, you find national companies bringing in people from all parts of the United States. My family would not be here today were it not for Westinghouse Electric Corporation transferring my husband from Kansas City, Missouri, to Staunton. One of the earliest big companies to establish in Augusta County is DuPont. Coming to Waynesboro in the 1920s, it is still a very vital force in the economy of the area, bringing new residents from all parts of the country.

Since World War II, companies like ASR, Westinghouse, General Electric, Reynolds Metals, Merck Pharmaceuticals have come to our section of the Valley. In the past 5 years, we have seen the coming of Coors Beer in Rockingham County, as well as Hershey Chocolate in nearby Stuarts Draft. All bring new residents from other parts of the country, as well as providing employment for local residents. This is not confined to the Valley—all over the Commonwealth of Virginia you find migration taking place to Virginia.

In conclusion, do not forget that here in Staunton, we have a living museum which preserves the rich traditions of the earliest settlers of the Shenandoah Valley. Focusing on the ethnic diversity of our region, there are the 4 18th century farms recreated: English, Ulster Scots, German, and the Appalachian farm of the American frontier. I sincerely hope that all of you have visited the Museum of American Frontier Culture. It epitomizes what I have attempted to relate to you about migration to the Shenandoah Valley, and to Augusta County in particular.

This is my interpretation of the migration to the beautiful area west of the Blue Ridge. Remember that migration means moving from one place to another for residence—be it a furry friend, a feathered friend, or mankind.

History of Parnassus United Methodist Church and Parnassus Cemetery

Donna Huffer

The Methodist Episcopal Church was first established in Staunton in 1806. By 1834 the Augusta Circuit was formed encompassing Augusta County. (1) That same year Jacob and Samel Whitmer leased a house and three-fourths of an acre of land to A. Rankin and William Sillings for the opening of a school. The building was to operate as a school during the week and then convert into a church "free for all denominations to preach or worship in during Saturday and Sundays . . .". (2)

This arrangement continued for years until interest grew in establishing a permanent church. On August 11, 1846 trustees Samuel W. Whitmer, Lewis Whitmer, John S. Whitmer, Gabriel Hite, and John Huff purchased two acres and twenty-one poles from Thomas and Minerva Holt with the purpose that they "shall erect and build or cause to be erected and built thereon a house a place of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church." (3) It is believed that these two acres included land for a community cemetery, although not specifically stated in the deed. The first burial took place in 1846 with the death of Catherine Whitmer, wife of Samuel Whitmer, Sr. (4)

Rev. George W. Israel dedicated the new building in 1846 and a brick was inscribed for the occasion bearing the words, "Locust Year 1846". In honor of its dedication, the new church was known as Mount Israel Methodist Episcopal Church. (5)

No record remains of the various pastors who served at Mt. Israel during the early years prior to the Civil War. They were probably circuit ministers who rode from church to church on horseback and were fed and housed by church members. The census of 1860, for example, recorded that L. W. Haslip, age twenty-six and minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, boarded that year with John Whitmer, member of Mt. Israel. (6)

The Civil War took many church members away to battlefields, among them John Addison Whitmore, Samuel W. Whitmore, James G. Whitmore, and Benjamin F. Shiflett. Some returned home in coffins, dead from war wounds and disease. The church, now known as Parnassus Methodist, was the site of funerals for Josiah L. Whitmore (died of wounds), Samuel Martin Whitmore (killed at McDowell), Thomas R. Whitmore (died of wounds), and Washington Read (killed at Manassas). (7)

After the Civil War, life returned to the community. The congregation grew and became more active in religious endeavors. When Rev. S. R. Snapp was assigned to the Parnassus circuit (Parnassus, Spring Hill, Jennings Gap, and Centreville), he saw a great need for a permanent manse. His carpenter son, Charles Edgar Snapp, got the contract in 1880 to build the manse adjacent to the church. It was finished at a cost of \$1200. (8)

In addition to the completion of the manse, the church also saw material improvements. Charles Snapp carved a walnut pulpit for the sanctuary which is still used today. A chandelier

consisting of ten brass kerosene lamps arranged in a circular fashion with fourteen mirrored reflectors and crystal prisms suspended from the rim was acquired. It was later changed over to electricity. (9)

An organ, noted The Valley Virginian newspaper in 1881, was purchased. "A Clough and Warren Organ manufactured at Detroit, Michigan, has been purchased through the agent, Mr. J. Neft for the Methodist Church at Parnassus. It has three full sets of reeds, eleven stop knee swell and grand organ knee lever." (10)

Then, suddenly, sometime 1882-1883, a disaster came to Parnassus Church that caused the congregation to tear down the old wall and foundation. Some people have speculated that a fire destroyed the old church, but if that were true, how did the pulpit and chandelier survive unscathed? Although it is possible that a small fire may have caused limited damage to the church, The Valley Virginian sites aging and structural damage on November 23, 1882. "Owing to the condition of the front wall of the Methodist Church at this place the official members have determined to have it taken down and rebuilt and to have the church renovated and improved throughout." (11)

Members immediately set about raising money for the new church by having concerts and church suppers. The old church was not completely torn down until 1883 and the new and present church was raised by the winter of 1884. The red brick was manufactured from clay on the property. A bell tower was added and a bell christened in 1893. (12)

From 1884 until 1903 Parnassus fell under the Parnassus/Mt. Sidney circuit which included Mt. Sidney, Centreville, and Spring Hill. From 1903 the Parnassus Charge consisted of Mt. Solon, Sangerville, Centreville, Spring Hill and Parnassus. By 1915, Spring Hill was dropped. (13)

Parnassus Cemetery grew crowded over the years, a sad reminder of the sudden flu epidemics that swept away children, of consumption which brought down people in the prime of life, of gun accidents of teenage boys, and the chronic ailments of the old. To enlarge the graveyard, a new section was added to the left of the old in 1901. In October 1928 Mr. Bruce Malcolm donated land to be used as another addition to the newer section. Again, in 1979 Mr. Wayne Fairburn donated .319 acres, adjacent to the oldest section. (14)

In modern times Parnassus Methodist found itself lacking in Sunday School space. A committee was formed to oversee the project of building an addition. A ground-breaking ceremony was held February 21, 1954. By August 1955 the addition was completed with seven new Sunday School rooms and a basement. (15)

Today Parnassus Methodist is a completely modern church with modern goals. It continues to serve the community, a strong testament to 146 years of growth and development.

Footnotes:

(1) ANNALS OF AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA 1726-1871 BY Joseph Waddell, page 87.

(2) Deed dated June 30, 1834, Augusta County Courthouse.

(3) Deed dated August 11, 1846, Augusta County Courthouse.

(4) PARNASSUS CEMETERY-AN INDEX OF THE OLDEST SECTION by Donna Huffer.

(5) PARNASSUS TIMES DISPATCH, Volume 4, Number 1.

(6) 1860 Augusta County Census.

(7) 5TH VIRGINIA INFANTRY by Lee Wallace.

(8) THE VALLEY VIRGINIAN dated February 16, 1882.

(9) THE VALLEY VIRGINIAN dated May 13, 1880.

(10) THE VALLEY VIRGINIAN dated February 10, 1881.

(11) THE VALLEY VIRGINIAN dated November 23, 1882.

(12) THE VALLEY VIRGINIAN dated December 2, 1882 and October 2, 1884.

(13) A BRIEF HISTORY OF PARNASSUS CHURCH AND CHARGE by C. E. Simmons.

(14) Deeds dated October 29, 1901, October 30, 1928, and July 25, 1979 at Augusta County Courthouse.

(15) PARNASSUS TIMES DISPATCH, Volume 4, Number 1.

Early Section of Parnassus Church Cemetery

1st Row, left to right:

C. Lula Sillings Gibson Born November 15, 1889 Died February 23, 1979
 Leonard F. Gibson Born February 15, 1888 Died May 2, 1969
 Clara Sillings Snyder Born November 1, 1886 Died November 13, 1978
 Joseph Edward Snyder Born August 15, 1888 Died July 15, 1961
 Arline Snyder Neff Born March 11, 1915
 Marion Woodrow Neff Born March 15, 1916 Died May 27, 1961

2nd Row, left to right:

Robert Roy Silling Born July 5, 1893 Died March 9, 1979
 Anna Catherine Silling Born June 14, 1894 Died August 25, 1976
 Helen L. Keller, foster daughter of RR Silling Born February 20, 1934
 Died December 1, 1937
 Malena May Silling Born May 8, 1876 Died December 22, 1960
 George F. Silling Born October 26, 1852 Died June 3, 1936
 Emma J. Silling Born June 1, 1855 Died March 10, 1938
 M. Margaret McKee Born 1873 Died 1946
 Simon P. McKee Born 1846 Died 1927
 Susan E. McKee Born 1843 Died 1911

3rd Row, left to right:

Catherine Shiplepp Born March 11, 1852 Died August 23, 1912
 Martin L. Shiplepp Born September 19, 1842 Died August 8, 1910
 Ginnie Ruth Kiracofe, Dau of CW and AM Kiracofe Born April 6, 1897
 Died July 8, 1898
 Moffett G. Kiracofe Born October 20, 1902 Died September 9, 1924
 Anna M. Kiracofe Born September 15, 1878 Died July 6, 1955
 Charles W. Kiracofe Born December 12, 1867 Died January 7, 1952
 Sallie Belle Plecker Born September 26, 1881 Died January 6, 1947
 John Samuel Plecker Born September 3, 1874 Died April 3, 1945
 Jacob Neff Born February 25, 1817 Died June 30, 1883 Aged 66 years
 Admonia Neff Born December 18, 1853 Died March 25, 1911
 Wav? Plecker Born November 3, 1909 Died November 6, 1911
 Ethel M. Terry Born March 11, 1895 Died April 23, 1907
 Walter F. Terry Born February 27, 1886 Died May 20, 1903
 Nellie M. Wiseman Born September 27, 1898 Died March 2, 1899
 M. Crystal Mills Died August 18, 189? Aged 14 years
 George Pinkleton Silling Born November 1, 1897 Died March 6, 1899
 Preston Everett Silling Born October 27, 1881 Died December 14, 1901
 Elizabeth P. Mills Born 1869 Died 1938
 William T. Mills Born 1856 Died 1919
 Peter A. Mills Born October 8, 1898 Died January 12, 1970

4th Row, left to right:

Kate A. Wilson, wife of George W. Wilson Born November 11, 1842 Died
 September 23, 1878
 Mary Adams, wife of Samuel Adams Born August 11, 1811 Died August 22, 1888
 Aged 71 years
 Catherine Rodes Died May 17, 1884 Aged 70 years
 George W. Bauserman Born March 23, 1882 Died November 22, 1895
 Sarah Nash, wife of James L. Nash Born October 27, 1821 Died February 5, 1883
 J. Shields Beard Died December 31, 1833 Aged 58 years
 E. Virginia Beard Died February 18, 1915 Aged 70 years
 A. J. Sillings Born October 2, 1821 Died November 22, 1882
 Mary E. Sillings Died January 9, 1886 Aged 57 years
 Alice Silling Died November 10, 1887 Aged 22 years
 Erty B. Coffman Died May 7, 1889 Aged 3 years
 Infant Coffman Died March 9, 1891 Aged 8 days
 Sallie M. Silling Died June 2, 1891 Aged 31 years
 Daniel A. Coffman Died April 28, 1892 Aged 52 years
 Barbara Ann Coffman Born April 6, 1854 Died March 10, 1908
 Annie M. Coffman Born December 28, 1888 Died December 22, 1904
 James H. Bauserman Born October 28, 1863 Died September 6, 1933
 Ella N. Bauserman Born July 19, 1863 Died April 2, 1924
 Axie Lelia Bauserman Born August 19, 1892 Died November 13, 1908

5th Row, left to right:

Henry E. Bryan Born June 14, 1814 Died January 11, 1871
 Sarah, wife of Henry Bryan Born March 11, 1818 Died June 6, 1902
 Mary Jane Hiner, wife of John Hiner Born October 4, 1824 Died December 28, 1898
 James K. P. Hiner Born 1844 Died 1911
 Rosa Hogshead Born October 23, 1865 Died December 29, 18-83
 John Hogshead Born February 19, 1824 Died November 6, 1877
 Mittie Hogshead Died June 25, 1875 Aged 81 years
 D. F. Mohler Died April 15, 1896 Aged 67
 E. Ellen Mohler Died December 8, 1892 Aged 65
 James R. Silling Died May 4, 1894 Aged 63 years
 Sophia Silling Died March 9, 1916 Aged 82 years

6th Row, left to right:

Wooden Tombstone
 Willie A. Brown, son of R and SA Brown Born January 18, 1867 Died January 17, 1883
 Susan, wife of William Wright Died September 9, 1881 Aged 69 years
 Wilson Elmore, son of Samuel Grogg Born June 28, 1893 Died February 27, 1905
 S. A. Burgess Born May 10, 1824 Died December 15, 1872
 Aged 48 years, 7 months, 5 days
 Mary Burgess Born November 18, 1817 Died September 16, 1885
 Louis Wilson, son of JA and MG Silling Died August 7, 1884
 Aged 6 years, 1 month, 7 days
 Walter M., son of John A. and MG Silling Died October 13, 1891
 Aged 18 years, 4 months, 10 days

Mary G., wife of J. A. Silling Born August 15, 1845 Died December 23, 1904
John A. Silling Born September 15, 1845 Died August 2, 1923

7th row. left to right:

William Fairburn Died August 5, 1880 Aged 89 years, 6 months, 27 days
Susan McFall, wife of William McFall Born 1821 Died 1870 aged 46 years
Sarah Read, wife of Ben Read Born February 17, 1820 Died April 16, 1872
Myrvine Shiple, son of ML and CE Shiple Died December 31, 1896
Aged 14 years, 8 months, 27 days

8th Row, left to right:

Matilda Reed Died December 6, 1858 Aged 20 years, 10 months, 21 days
Washington Reed Killed at Manassas Died July 21, 1861 Aged 27 years
S. Jennie Whitmore, wife of BF Whitmore Died January 23, 1887
Aged 18 years, 10 months, 22 days
Mary E., daughter of JR and MJ Kanost Born November 22, 1883
Died December 29, 1883
B. F. Shiple Died February 6, 1896 Aged 73 years, 7 months, 4 days
Mary A. Shiple, wife of BF Shiple Die October 13,-1897 —
Aged 70 years, 8 months, 18 days

8th Row, left to right:

Mary A. Whitmore Born August 9, 1840 Died July 1, 1875
Joseph A. Whitmore Born December 18, 1830 Died October 10, 1912
Emmett H. Whitmore Born June 6, 1870 Died November 2, 1912
Mary E., dau of JS and E Whitmore Widow of DE Mohler and wife of Dr. H. H. Jones
Died July 27, 1904 Aged 61 years, 7 months, 19 days
John G. Hogsett Born October 7, 1820 Died March 23, 1881
Aged 60 years, 5 months, 16 days
Rosa Hamilton Harlow Born May 16, 1881 Died November 29, 1956
Hewitt Harlow Born 1871 Died 1929
Mary C. Harlow Born March 7, 1839 Died July 18, 1910
Frank Harlow Born May 10, 1840 Died June 3, 1905
Infant son of JT and BG Shiple Died June 24, 1884

9th Row, left to right:

John Addison Whitmore Born March 5, 1833 Died July 30, 1904 —
Sue Gregory Whitmore Born September 19, 1846 Died April 4, 1923
S. Whittie, son of J and M Plecker Died January 20, 1874 Aged 12 years
Samuel Whitmore Died December 1, 1888 Aged 49 years, 2 months, 9 days

10th Row, left to right

Lucy J. Wyatt, wife of Bailey Shumate Died May 6, 1860 Aged 60 years
Mary, wife of Bailey Shumate Died January 14, 1854 Aged 94 years
Rock Monument
Polly Rankin Sillings Born January 30, 1800 Died December 29,
1868 Marker put up by G. F. Sillings
Rev. G. R. Jefferson Died January 2, 1890 Aged 56 years, 5 months, 4 days

Sallie M. Jefferson, wife of GR Jefferson Died July 19, 1891

Aged 56 years, 9 months, 14 days

Addie Jefferson, dau of Rev. GR and S. Jefferson Died January 19, 1871

Aged 1 year, 5 months, 8 days

Margaret B. Whitmer, wife of Samuel Whitmer Died February 1, 1869

Aged 62 years, 4 months

John Edward Bolton, son of SH and S. Bolton Born April 9, 1857

Died February 1, 1873 Aged 15 years, 9 months, 22 days

Nicholas M. Whitmore Born July 29, 1870 Died April 1, 1886

Aged 15 years, 8 months, 2 days

Albert Whitmore Died December 11, 1893 Aged 66 years, 10 months, 6 days

Martha Rebecca Whitmore Born October 10, 1842 Died December 6, 1917

Solomon Driver, son of DH and AM Driver Died March 16, 1881

Aged 3 years, 2 months, 19 days

11th Row, left to right:

Jacob Mohler Died January 28, 1850 Aged 61 years

Polly Mohler Died March 8, 1860 Aged 62 years

Ephraim Sillings Born June 10, 1831 Died October 25, 1867

Aged 33 years, 4 months, 15 days

Mattie E., wife of George Ruebush, dau of L and S Whitmer Born May 21, 1852 Died

February 19, 1874 Aged 20 years, 8 months, 28 days

Lewis Whitmer Died June 23, 1886 Aged 64 years and 16 days

Sarah M., wife of Lewis Whitmer Born January 4, 1828 Died December 26, 1912

Henry B., son of L and C Homan Born February 8, 1885 Died October 26, 1887

Robert E. Whitmore Born 1866 Died 1828

James B. Whitmore Born 1847 Died 19—

Mary Ida Whitmore Born 18— Died 19—

Margaret Campbell, wife of James M. Campbell Born December 7, 1827

Died August 7, 1893 Aged 67 years, 8 months

James M. Campbell Born May 26, 1811 Died January 3, 1874 Aged 62 years, 7 months

12th Row, left to right:

John N. Clark Born February 16, 1821 Died January 25, 1886

Mary Jane, wife of Solomon Whitmore Born August 19, 1827 Died February 15, 1889

Aged 62 years, 5 months, 27 days

John S. Whitmer Died May 9, 1863 Aged 65 years, 8 months, 11 days

Solomon, son of J and E Whitmore Died January 17, 1863

Aged 34 years, 8 months, 27 days

Thomas Mc. Whitmer Wounded at the Battle of Port Republic on June 9th and

Died June 11, 1862 Aged 16 years, 10 months

Josiah L. Whitmore Wounded at the Battle of Port Republic June 9th and

Died June 17, 1862

Margaret Whitmore Born December 17, 1828 Died August 3, 1862

M. S. Whitmore Born October 28, 1823 Died September 22, 1903

Louisa A. Gilkerson Died October 16, 1884 Aged 83 years, 4 months, 27 days

David F. Gilkerson Born February 25, 1827 Died July 8, 1911

13th Row, left to right:

Charles A. Stewart Son of WR Stewart of Highland Born March 21, 1836

Died March 19, 1855

Annie R. Donaghe Born January 1, 1843 Died June 3, 1913

Aged 70 years, 5 months, 2 days

Thomas Donaghe Died August 25, 1861 Aged 56 years

Margaret Donaghe Born April 25, 1812 Died December 14, 1894

Broken Stone

Alice Annettie Whitmore Daughter of Solomon and Mary Whitmore Died June 10, 1885

Unmarked Stone

14th Row, left to right:

William Sillings Born 1794 Died 1855

William Wright Born April 16, 1798 Died January 26, 1862

Aged 64 years, 9 months, 10 days

→ George Dinkle Born April 21, 1840 Died November 12, 1861

Aged 21 years, 6 months, 21 days

→ Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Dinkle Born April 20, 1803 Died March 20, 1864

Aged 60 years, 11 months

→ Jacob Dinkle Died March 15, 1895 Aged 92 years

→ Hettie J., wife of Jacob Dinkle Died January 16, 1908 Aged 70 years, 6 months, 20 days

Martin Wright Born September 19, 1849 Died February 1858

Emma V., Daughter of L. and S. M. Whitmer Died December 18, 1861

Aged 6 years, 1 month, 23 days

15th Row, left to right

Samuel Whitmer Born September 10, 1795 Died May 19, 1872

Aged 76 years, 8 months, 9 days

Catherine Whitmer Born December 21, 1802 Died July 30, 1846

Elizabeth A. Will, consort of John H. Will Born September 11, 1827

Died November 18, 1849 Aged 22 years, 2 months, 7 days

Margaret Eve Whitmore, consort of Joseph M. Whitmore and Daughter of George Cook

Born November 21, 1826 Died March 28, 1850

Harvey Whitmer Born December 22, 1826 Died April 12, 1850

Aged 23 years, 11 months, 5 days

Elizabeth Whitmer, consort of J. S. Whitmer Born May 18, 1804

Died December 28, 1851

Nancy Whitmore Born September 30, 1801 Died January 7, 1861

Jacob Whitmer Died November 15, 1858 Aged 63 years, 10 months, 15 days

Nancy G. Whitmer Died January 8, 1856 Aged 20 years, 1 month, 23 days

Bettie J. Whitmore Died October 1, 1859 Aged 27 years, 6 months, 15 days

Samuel M., son of J. S. and E. Whitmore Born May 12, 1839 and Fell in Battle of

McDowell Died May 8, 1862

16th Row, left to right (under the trees)

David Kenne Silling Born January 10, 1859 Died March 3, 1908

Mary F. Silling, wife of DK Silling Born January 10, 1875 Died October 18, 1922

Against the back fence:

Susan F., wife of Martin Whitmore Born February 16, 1833 Died October 27, 1904

Improving the Country Home: Elsie Moffett, the Tuesday Club, and the Establishment of Home Demonstration Work in Augusta County

by Ann McCleary

In the early twentieth century, a wave of rural reform swept the countryside. President Theodore Roosevelt created the Commission on County Life in 1908 and charged its members with reporting "upon the present condition of country life" and the best way to improve rural living.¹ That same year, the University of Virginia conducted its first Rural Life Conference to "reach some conclusion as to what the problems of rural life really are."²



Elsie Weeden Moffett, Augusta County's first home demonstration agent from 1917 through 1920.

The new agricultural extension work, begun in Texas in 1903, brought hope for rural reform not only for the farm but also for the farm home. Early in the development of the extension program, founder Seaman Knapp argued that improvements in the home environment and work with women and girls were critical steps to improving rural life. Believing that women might be suspicious of new advice for the home, Knapp began working with girls. In 1910 the first tomato clubs for girls were organized, one in North Carolina and one in southwestern Virginia. As Knapp predicted, women soon became interested in the remunerative nature of club work. Emergency wartime funding available in 1917 encouraged the introduction of home demonstration work into many Virginia counties. In Augusta County, the establishment of home demonstration work can be credited largely to efforts by the Tuesday Club and one of its charter members — an energetic young county woman named Elsie Weeden Moffett.

Elsie Moffett, born June 6, 1886, was the daughter of Robert Wilson and Mary Eliza "Nannie" Moffett. She grew up at the Moffett family farm, called Locust Hill, near Barterbrook. "Nannie" Harris, an Albermarle County native, graduated from Mary Baldwin Seminar and then taught school in Augusta County, where she met her husband Robert Moffett, a farmer. All seven of their children pursued some type of higher education. The five boys attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute, while the two daughters studied at Mary Baldwin Seminary. During her three years at Mary Baldwin, from 1902 through 1905, Elsie Moffett studied a

¹Roy V. Scott, *The Reluctant Farmer: The Rise of Agricultural Extension to 1914* (Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1970), 291-2.

²*Addresses Delivered at the University of Virginia Summer School in connection with the Conference for the Study of the Problems of Rural Life*, Volume 3 (University of Virginia, 1910), 5.

traditional fare of literature and rhetoric, French, history, music, art, and penmanship along with algebra, geometry, and chemistry.³

According to the Tuesday Club records, Elsie's sister Louise conceived the idea of establishing the Tuesday Club in 1914. The first meeting at the Moffett family home on June 25. Writing in the club scrapbook, Louise Moffett recalled:

"On returning home after a course of study and attending a gay round of parties, I found that the people of my acquaintance, all of them educated, seemed never to discuss the really interesting things which they had spent time and money learning."⁴

The first members, young country women describing themselves as "women who have a strong social consciousness," formed the club for "mutual improvement and universal service." The introductory remarks about the club's purpose in its first minute book characterized the organization as "a country club of broad interest and membership, personal advancement, and fellowship." The club became a "medium of discussion and work," sponsoring a wide variety of activities from supporting war orphans to sponsoring film censorship and participating in welfare work, but its strongest focus remained on education and health issues in the county.⁵

Soon after its organization, Tuesday Club members showed an interest in home economics. On March 22, 1915, the club program focused on "Domestic Science," drawing upon a paper by Miss Cochran on "Efficiency in the Home." The paper discussed such topics as using labor-saving devices, standardizing conditions and tools, eliminating wasted motion, and increasing efficiency.

In recording the minutes of the meeting, club secretary Elsie Moffett noted that "the most vital point is the personal attitude of the woman toward her work. If this is not what it should be, new house-keeping is a failure."⁶

In the coming months, the Tuesday Club continued to focus on social issues in the countryside, featuring programs on child education and cooperative education. On June 13, 1916, a new committee on "Home and Education" was proposed. The club became active in promoting, organizing, and funding a county nurse program. The April 1917 minutes note that it was "through the influence of the Tuesday Club that the Augusta County Cooperative Health Association was formed." Elsie Moffett was appointed health officer for the club.⁷

³Background information from Cornelia Moffett, January 1993, and correspondence from William C. Pollard, College Archivist, Mary Baldwin College, January 14, 1993..

⁴"Tuesday Club, The First Twenty-Five Years," Daily News-Leader, July 20, 1939, (article saved in the Tuesday Club Scrapbook #1).

⁵"Tuesday Club;" Tuesday Club Minute Book I, I; "Tuesday Club: Twenty-five Years."

⁶Tuesday Club, Minute Book I, March 22, 1915.

⁷Tuesday Club, Minute Book I, June 13, 1916 and April 6, 1917. See also the minutes for September 26, 1916; October 10, 1916; November 21, 1916; and January 9, 1917;.

Elsie's interest in public health and home economics may have come from her childhood experiences. Her mother, Nannie Moffett, became ill with tuberculosis when Elsie was young. According to family tradition, Elsie spent much time nursing her sick mother, who died when Elsie was only twelve. As the oldest girl in a family of seven children, Elsie assumed responsibility for many domestic activities and no doubt became familiar with the running of a farm household.⁸

On March 1, 1917, the Tuesday Club accepted "a motion proposed that the club advocate the formation of a canning club in the county for Augusta County girls." During the summer of 1917, Elsie Moffett worked as a volunteer to organize and teach canning to girls in the county, with reimbursement only for travel expenses. The records of the Spring Hill club, one of the oldest in the county, note that even before their home demonstration club was formed in 1918, Miss Moffett held "several unorganized meetings" in the town hall to conduct canning demonstrations.⁹

The first canning programs proved very successful, leading the Tuesday Club to endorse the "appointment of a 'Home Demonstrator' for Augusta County at their October 24, 1917 meeting. The speaker at this month's program was Hallie Hughes, assistant district agent for state home demonstration work from Richmond, who spoke on "Home Demonstration Work." Only six days later, Elsie Moffett gave another "instructive" talk to the Tuesday Club on home demonstration work. The Club appointed Mrs. Deekins to "interview" the supervisors as a representative of the club and to encourage them to financially support this work. The extension service at Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg offered to contribute one dollar for every dollar appropriated by the county supervisors. With the funding secured, Elsie Moffett was officially appointed as Home Demonstration Agent for Augusta County in March of 1918.¹⁰

By 1919, club work grew within the county to include eight canning clubs with 118 members and two poultry clubs with 20 members. Moffett also assisted a county school in organizing one cooking and one sewing club, "with the teacher in charge giving instructor under my direction." Moffett's 1919 annual report provides a glimpse of the time-consuming work undertaken by many home demonstration club agents. During this year, Moffett traveled 1,045 miles by rail and 7,500 by automobile, visiting 150 home demonstrators, 200 farmers or others not yet in club work, and 160 club members. Moffett provided 670 consultations at her home or office, wrote 1,210 letters, visited 130 schools or clubs, and prepared 140 articles on her work for publication. The 150 club meetings had an estimated attendance of 4,800.¹¹

Miss Moffett acknowledged the important, supportive role played by the Tuesday Club in her 1919 annual report, noting that the club "supported my work when ever asked to do so." In 1918, the Tuesday Club helped to organize an Advisory Board for Home Demonstration

⁸Cornelia Moffett, January 23, 1992.

⁹Tuesday Club, Minute Book I, March 1, 1917; Augusta County Home Demonstration Clubs, "History of the Augusta County Home Demonstration Clubs, 1917-1967," (1967), 1918.

¹⁰Tuesday Club, Minute Book I, October 24, 1917; October 30, 1917. "History of Augusta County Home Demonstration Clubs," 2.

¹¹"Annual Report," 1919.

Work. The Tuesday Club president selected one woman from each of the magisterial districts and three women from small towns to serve on this board. The club minutes include numerous references to the home demonstration work over the next few years. On June 26, 1918, members of the Tuesday Club met with a committee from the Cosmopolitan Club to arrange for a demonstration by Elsie Moffett. In 1919, the club voted a \$25 scholarship to "defray the expense of one of Miss Moffett's canning club girls" to attend the short course at Blacksburg. Later that summer, Miss Moffett gave a short report of her girls summer camp. The canning club girls prepared lunch for the Tuesday Club on August 9, 1919.¹²

Elsie Moffett worked as the home demonstration agent in Augusta County through 1920. By this year, membership had grown to 216 in the girls clubs and 210 in the women's clubs. Club activities had become much more diversified, from adding programs on topics such as rat extermination, child feeding and care, and home improvements to establishing a women's rest room in Staunton and hosting a baby clinic. Miss Moffett wrote that the most rewarding aspect of club work for her was her work with girls, particularly teaching the short courses offered in the county's summer encampments. In her 1919 annual report, Moffett recalled one club girl who said, "Do you know the county short course gave me something I do not know what it is, but it just makes me want to do everything I do the very best I can." Moffett added, "I feel that I know the members that I would never have known if it had not been for this short course."¹³

Elsie Moffett retired from home demonstration work in 1921 due to her health. She died only three years later, on June 1, 1924. Her obituary appeared on the front page of the Staunton newspaper, highlighting her contributions to home demonstration work. The article noted that "In this work, Miss Moffett was known and loved throughout the county. She gave her entire life to it, working early and late, "with "earnestness" and "long hours. " Her popularity is reflected in the newspaper comment, "Of a lovable disposition, Miss Moffett made friends everywhere she went"¹⁴

The Tuesday Club held a memorial meeting to recognize and honor Elsie Moffett's work for the club and for the county. The newspaper account of the meeting praised Miss Moffett, "whose life was devoted to her work among the county people, especially the children who still revere her memory." Mrs. A. M. Howison spoke of "her faithfulness and . . . her gentle and loving nature in every part of her life." The newspaper account noted that this meeting had an "unusually large attendance," including many members of the Cosmopolitan Club.¹⁵ Elsie Moffett's exceptional efforts, with the support of the Tuesday Club, established a strong basis for the home demonstration work in Augusta County.

The author would like to thank Judge and Mrs. William S. Moffett and Mrs. Polly Bundy for their support of this research.

¹²"Annual Report," 1919; Tuesday Club, Minute Book I, June 26, 1918; June 10 and 24, 1919; August 5, 1919.

¹³Elsie Moffett, "Annual Report of Home Demonstration Work for Women and Girls in 1920".

¹⁴Daily News-Leader, 3 June 1924, p. 1.

¹⁵"Memorial Meeting, " Daily News-Leader, April 1924.

THE WILLOW SPOUT

Under the leadership of Mrs. Samuel Henley Carter, the Augusta County Historical Society presented an historical marker commemorating the 144 year old Willow Spout located on U. S. 11 in Fort Defiance on October 11, 1992. Colonel Malcolm Livick presented the history of Willow Spout.

The society gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the following people in making the marker possible:

Mr. Donald Link, teacher of Industrial Art, Fort Defiance High School, and his students for creating the replica of the wooden trough.

Mr. James Shreckhise of Weyers Cave, who volunteered his services to landscape the trough site.

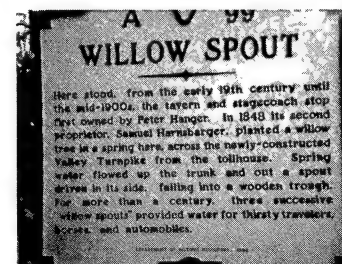
Mr. Thomas Erskine, of Luck Stone Company, who donated the gravel used in the landscaping.

Mr. Nelson Cline, of Mount Sidney, who donated his time and truck to haul and spread the gravel.

Mr. Joe Nutt, who wrote the informative article in the Staunton News Leader about the Willow Spout and Hanger's Tavern

The Virginia Department of Transportation for help in numerous ways

Grateful acknowledgement is also expressed for the financial assistance given to the project by the following persons:



Ralph S. Coffman
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Katherine G. Bushman

Katherine H. Dozier
Evelyn R. Cramer
William S. Moffett, Jr.
Sarah E. Nutt
Faye C. Richardson
Randolph W. Covington
Faye Cooper



Pictured from left to right are those who helped make the commemoration possible: Stanley Bennet of Fort Defiance High School who helped create the replica of the original wooden trough; Donald Link, teacher of industrial arts at FDHS, who aided in the construction; Malcolm Livick, who gave the dedication speech; Mrs. Samuel H. Carter, board member of Augusta County Historical Society; and R. Fontaine McPherson, president of the society.

Photo by Cyn Schneider of the Staunton News Leader

The "Willow Spout" Committee: Mrs. Samuel H. Carter, chairman Ralph S. Coffman, Mrs. Peter Cooper, Ms. Ann McCleary, Mrs. William Bushman

CONFEDERATE POSTAL SYSTEM; AUGUSTA COUNTY, 1861-65

By David N. Walker

The Confederate Postal System was established by the Provisional Congress on Feb. 21, 1861. An organization similar to the Federal Post Office Department included a Postmaster General (John H. Reagan), a Contract Bureau, an Appointment Bureau, and a Finance Bureau. An act of May 9, 1861 (Pro. Cong. Stat. 105) authorized Reagan to issue a proclamation on announcing the date on which he would take control of the Post Service. On May 13, 1861 the Postmaster General notified all the postmasters that he would assume charge on June 1, directed them to continue performance of duties, and requested them to forward their names to the Appointment Bureau for issuing of new commissions.

OFFICES and POSTMASTERS

When Virginia seceded from the Union on April 17, 1861, there were 33 Federal Post Offices in Augusta County that continued to operate as such and later as Confederate systems. Alphen T. King, Lebanon White Sulphur Springs, was installed April 25, 1861 during the time Virginia was an independent state prior to admission to the Confederacy on May 7, 1861.

For major cities and county seats appointments were political, recommended by President Davis, and confirmed by the Senate. Staunton (POP.3871) being the county seat was considered to be a major post office. The Journal of the Congress lists these major offices, but no comprehensive list exists for other appointments. The Department selected persons exempt from military service because of age or disability. Women were appointed to smaller post offices. Due to the lack of records it is assumed those persons appointed under the Federal System were reappointed to the Confederate Postal System.

Several offices; Arbor Hill, Barter Brook, Lebanon White Sulphur Springs, Long Glade, Rockland Mills, Swoope's Depot, and West View, were most likely discontinued during the war. Pond's Gap and Stuart's Draft may have been reassigned to other offices.

Camp Shenandoah, James F. Kemper, postmaster, existed from April 4, 1862 to April 20, 1862 prior to General "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley campaign. This office served the troops in training with a distinctive post mark and well as means to communicate home.

Postmasters were paid a salary set by The House of Representatives. Deputy postmasters were paid on a commission basis. The First Congress established rates on April 19, 1862 (Chapter LXVII) based on a sliding scale per annum. Volume of mail processed was the deciding factor. Tabulated below, are these commissions:

Less than \$100: 50 per cent
\$100 to \$400: 40 per cent
\$400 to \$2400: 30 per cent
More than \$2400: 10 per cent

Note: All scales, if worked from 9PM to 5AM, were paid a rate of 60 per cent

In addition, deputy postmasters were paid 8 per cent on all postage sold for letters and packages.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

ARBOR HILL:

Charles T. Palmer, appointed Jan. 5, 1857, was a merchant and only 26 years old. His wife Isabella, age 22, bore him two children.

BARTER BROOK:

Thomas W. Shelton, appointed Feb. 6, 1845, was only 25 at the time. Later he became a physician. His real estate holdings were considerable including a large family home(\$9500).

BURKE'S MILL:

Thomas J. Burke, appointed Feb. 4, 1857, was a farmer, age 55, with assets of \$20,000 in real estate and \$13,500 in personal property. His wife Polly, age 56, and he had four children.

CAMP SHENANDOAH:

James F. Kemper, appointed Apr. 5, 1862, was a temporary assignment and was probably selected from out of state with the military. He can not be found in the 1860 census

CHURCHVILLE:

John B. Quider, appointed July 12, 1860, was a tailor. He was a widower with two children, ages six and ten. His mother-in-law, Sarah Roberts, age 65, lived in a \$1000 dollar valued real property.

CRAIGSVILLE:

James M. King, appointed Sept. 27, 1858, 39 years old. He was depot agent for The Virginia Central Railroad. His wife, Susan A., age 32, bore him four children.

DEERFIELD:

Kennerly Craig, appointed March 19, 1858, was probably a tenant farmer, age 28. His wife Mary, age 33, bore him three children.

FISHERSVILLE:

Phillip Schmucker, age 49, was appointed April 27, 1859. He was depot agent for The Virginia Central Railroad. He had \$2500 in real estate and \$5765 in personal property. He and his, Sarah, age 40, were childless.

GREENVILLE:

Henry Shultz, appointed Dec. 31, 1853, was 37 years old and is listed as Postmaster in the 1860 census. He and wife, Nancy C., age 32, lived in modest means with their four children.

HERMITAGE:

Samuel Kennerly, Jr., appointed Aug. 14, 1858, was a physician by profession, age 30, lived in a large house (\$5000 valuation) with his wife Frances, age 33, and their two children.

JENNINGS' GAP:

John J. Brown, appointed Mar. 21, 1856, was a farmer with assets of \$3000 and \$6192 respectively. Mary D. — was his wife.

LEBANON WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS:

Alphen T. King, appointed April 25, 1861, born in New York, was a farmer, age 37. Frances, age 35, had one child.

LONG GLADE:

Andrew H. Clinedinst, appointed March 19, 1861, was a cabinet maker by trade. He and his wife E. F. lived in a modest house with their four children.

MIDDLEBROOK:

Robert M. Firth, appointed March 24, 1852, was born in England and at age 52 was a shoemaker. He and his wife Helen, age 52, lived in modest means with their three children. Also in the same household were his mother, age 72, and father, age 84.

MINT SPRING:

Alexander Gardner, age 39, was appointed April 25, 1856, to this position. He was a farmer and merchant with no real estate assets, but listed \$4424 in personal property. His wife, Rebecca H., age 31, bore him seven children, as of the 1860 census when Mint Spring had 56 inhabitants.

MOFFET'S CREEK (MOFFATT'S CREEK):

Alfred W. Anderson, appointed March 24, 1860, was a merchant, age 30. He and his wife, Elizabeth, age 22, lived in modest means with their two children.

MOSSY CREEK:

Thomas J. White, appointed June 27, 1858, was a farm manager, age 29, with a wife, Mary age 20, and one child.

MOUNT MERIDAN:

James Craig, age 56, appointed June 26, 1857, was a widower with two adult children living at home. He was a farmer with real estate valued at \$29,201 and personal property of \$10,750.

MOUNT SIDNEY:

James E. Ross, appointed Oct. 4, 1852, age 47, was a merchant and widower, with three children.

MOUNT SOLON:

Elizabeth Blakeman (more), appointed March 29, 1860, was a farmer's widow at age 57.

NEW HOPE:

Thornton G. Stout appointed Sept. 21, 1847 as a deputy postmaster. In 1860, he was a merchant with assets in excess of \$30,000 with his wife, Angeline, age 23.

PARNASSUS:

James A. Hamrick, appointed Dec. 15, 1855, was a merchant, age 36, and married to M. C., age 33, with three children.

POND'S GAP:

David Kunkle, appointed Dec. 31, 1856, age 51, was a farmer with real estate valued at \$10,950 and personal property at \$3445. He and his wife, Elizabeth age 25, had four children.

ROCKLAND MILLS:

George W. Rol(l)er, appointed June 23, 1855, was a farmer, age 29, with real estate valued at \$11,000 and personal property at \$1230. He and his Elizabeth, age 25, had four children.

SANGERVILLE:

Nathan L. Blakemore, appointed Jan. 6, 1858, was a merchant, age 43, with only \$300 in real estate but \$10,000 in personal property. He and his wife, J. E., age 39, had four children. A clerk, John W. Crist, age 19, lived in the same household.

SHERANDO:

James M. Lewis, age 35, was appointed October 25, 1856, to a deputy postmaster position. He was a farmer, with real estate valued at \$4032 and personal property listed at \$3015. His wife, Caroline age 30, was childless as of the 1860 census.

STAUNTON:

Stevenson was 68, when appointed Postmaster February 23, 1854. He was born in Maryland. He was reconfirmed by the Provisional Congress on July 25, 1861 and by the First Congress on April 18, 1862.

STEELE'S TAVERN:

Samuel D. Nelson was 37 years when appointed February 19, 1856. He was a merchant of some wealth, with modest real estate holdings but considerable personal property. His wife, Agnes, age 31, was childless at the time of the 1860 census.

STRIBLING SPRING:

Chesley Kinney, age 40, was appointed Postmaster July 23, 1856. He and his wife B.A., age 37, lived in a large house (\$50,000 asset) and their four children. In addition four others resided in the same household. In the 1870 census he is listed as Hotel Keeper with two children at home and no wife. In the same household there were listed a clerk in the hotel, a housekeeper, a farm laborer, and four domestic servants.

STUART'S DRAFT:

There are two John Wilsons listed in the 1860 census. One was a merchant, age 35, and the other a farmer, age 41, with a wife, Marsha age 39, and four children. Farmer Wilson had assets of \$6120 and \$4742 real and personal. The appointment is dated Sept. 8, 1852.

SUMMERDEAN:

Samuel X. Kerr, appointed Jan. 16, 1860, was a prosperous farmer, age 47, with a wife Elizabeth, age 48, and six children.

SWOOPE'S DEPOT:

Conelius Dull, appointed July 1, 1856, age 32, was depot agent for The Virginia Central Railroad. He and his wife Bettie, age 27, had two children

WAYNESBORO(UGH):

John W. Reeder, appointed Dec. 15, 1856, is listed as postmaster and tailor by trade. He had modest assets and at age 51 was living with his wife Catherine, age 46, and four children.

WEST VIEW:

Elizabeth G. Hobbs, appointed July 20, 1860, was 42 years old. She was the wife of James O. Hobbs, who was a merchant, age 48. They had one son, James, Jr. and lived in a home valued at \$6000.

*

POSTAL RATES and FEES

As Virginia seceded from the Union existing Federal postal rates were in effect. The United States made prepayment of postage compulsory with the Act of April 1, 1855; 3 cents per one half ounce for distances not over 3000 miles; 10 cents per one half ounce for distances over 3000 miles; and 1 cent for drop letters.

An Act by the U.S. Congress prohibited use of Federal stamps in the seceding states after May 31, 1861. Table I shows SECESSION ORDINANCES, AMISSIONS, and U. S. STAMP USAGE.

However, The Confederate Provisional Congress had established postal rates by the Act of Feb. 23, 1861. Chapter XIII, Sec.1 provided first class rates as follows:

- 5 cents per one half ounce for distances less than 500 miles.
- 10 cents Per one half ounce for distances over 500 miles.
- 2 cents for drop letters less than one half ounce. (each additional one half ounce: 2 cents)

Beginning June 1, 1861 individual postmasters prepared stamps and stamped envelopes to meet customer needs for prepayment of Postage. Many types of these were improvised; such as hand-stamped, manuscript, typeset, lithography, woodcuts, and typographed. The first general issue stamps were not available until October 16, 1861. Even after this date, because of supply shortages, provisional stamps and envelopes con-tinued to be used.

Section 2 of Chapter XIII established rates for newspapers, periodicals, and books:

Within the state, papers (less than 3 ounces) paid in advance Weekly: 6.5 cents per quarter: Semi-weekly: double: Three Times a week: triple: Daily: six times. Without the state, double these rates.

Within the state Periodicals (less than 1&1/2 ounces), paid in advance; Monthly: 3 cents per quarter; Semi-monthly: double. Any additional ounce or fractionnal amount the rates were double. Quarterly or Bi-monthly, the cost was 1 cent per ounce.

Newspapers, circulars, handbills, engravings, pamphlets, periodicals and magazines (less than 3 ounces) prepaid by stamps, cost 2 cents per quarter. For each additional ounce: add 2 cents.

Books (less than 4 pounds) prepaid by stamps, any distance, at 2 cents per ounce.

Section 3 of Chapter XIII, established stamp denominations, (2, 5, 10, at 20 cents) and stamped envelopes.

A rate increase was passed on May 3, 1862, by the First Congress, to be effective July 1, 1862. Sealed letters, manuscripts, or papers prepaid at 10 cents per one half ounce, any distance. Each additional one ounce, prepaid at 10 cents.

From Chapter XLVIII passed April 16, 1863, the following rate changes became effective:

- Newspapers: 1 cent each (less than 3 ounces); for each additional ounce over 3 one half cent. Rates were for those published in The Confederate States of America.
- Periodicals: 1 cent each (less than 1&1/2 ounces); each additional ounce or fraction thereof 1 cent per ounce.

RAILROADS and POSTAL SERVICE

The Provisional Congress, Second Session, Passed on April 9, 1861, an act in regards to carrying of the mails by the railroads. Chapter 1 directed The Postmaster General to negotiate contracts, establish routes, and empowered The Department to annul same. Section 4 specified "—carrying the mail once a day on schedules to be agreed on—". Rates of compensation were:

- First Class Roads: not exceeding \$150 per mile per annum.
- Second Class Roads: not exceeding \$100 per mile per annum.
- Third Class Roads: not exceeding \$50 per mile per annum.

It also provided that if one half of the service was at night, 25 per cent additional.

A First Class route from Richmond to Staunton was the Virginia Central Railroad. Milage can be determined from the following table:

Richmond to Gordonsville-	76 miles
Gordonsville to Charlottesville-	21 miles
Charlottesville to Staunton-	39 miles
Total-	136 miles

Based on one train per day, the railroad could be paid a maximum of \$20,400 a year, to carry the mail from Richmond to Staunton.

In July 1861, a daily schedule of mail and passenger service was established between Staunton and Richmond with trains leaving each location at 6:20 AM.

On October 22, 1861 East bound service was changed to 8:24 AM and West at 4:00 PM.

By December 1, 1861, the schedule was 7:30 AM departure from Richmond arriving in Staunton at 4:00 PM. The return trip was 8:00 AM from Staunton with a 4:30 PM arrival in Richmond (8 1/2 hrs. each way).

From September, 1862, to August, 1863, a schedule of 7 AM to Staunton and points West was established on a daily basis. The return trip left Staunton at 7 AM arriving in Richmond at 6:15 PM (11 1/4 hrs).

On January 14, 1864 to March, 1865, mail left Richmond daily at 6 AM. The Staunton to Richmond run left at 6:45 AM arriving 7 PM (12 1/4 hrs.).

COMMENTARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Article I, Sec. VIII, 7 of The Confederate Constitution: "To establish Post-Offices and Post Routes; but the expenses of the Post Office Department, after the first of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty-three, shall be paid out of its own expenses".

This statement plus the rate increase of July 1, 1862 produced the desired result. From the First Congress, fourth session, proceedings of the Senate on Dec. 8, 1863; The Postmaster General reported for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1863:

Receipts:	\$3,337,853.01
Expenditures:	\$2,662,804.67
Excess:	\$675,048.44

Quoting from President Davis; "___ instead of a deficiency of more than a million of dollars, as was the case in the preceding fiscal year. It is gratifying to perceive that the Department has thus been made self-sustaining, in accordance with sound principle___".

Historian, Walter Flavius McCaleb, paid a tribute to the Postmaster General: "The administration of the Department was from the first most successful; in deed, it may be said to have been conspicuously successful. It was self-sustaining at every stage of the war, and each year there was a net income of receipts over expenditures. To have organized so intricate an establishment and carried on satisfactorily for four years amid the raging of the bloodiest war-storm of the century is to have achieved an unusual triumph."

TABLE I of SECESSION ORDINANCES, ADMISSIONS and U.S. STAMP USAGE

States in Order of Secession	Ordinance of Secession Passed	Admitted to U.S. Stamp Confederacy Independent State		Usage as Total to May 31, 1861
S. Carolina	12/20/1860	02/04/1861	45 days	5 mo. 11 da.
Mississippi	01/09/1861	02/04/1861	26 days	4 mo 22 da.
Florida	01/10/1861	02/04/1861	25 days	4 mo. 21 da.
Alabama	01/11/1861	02/04/1861	24 days	4 mo. 20 da.
Georgia	01/18/1861	02/04/1861	17 days	4 mo . 13 da .
Louisiana	01/26/1861	02/04/1861	09 days	4 mo. 05 da.
Texas	02/01/1861	03/06/1861	46 days	4 mo. 00 da .
Virginia	04/17/1861	05/07/1861	20 days	1 mo. 14 da.
Arkansas	05/06/1861	05/18/1861	12 days	25 da.
N. Carolina	05/20/1861	05/27/1861	07 days	11 da.
Tennessee	06/08/1861	07/02/1861	00 days	00 da.

IN MEMORIAM

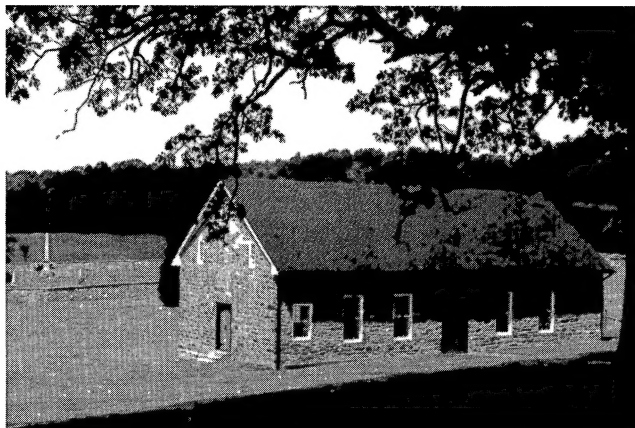
John T. Beck*
George DeLancey Hanger
John S. Loving
William L. Morrison
Joe F. Surratt, Jr.
Dr. Thomas C. Webster

*Charter Member

NEW MEMBERS

(since May, 1992)

James D. Ashley, Falls Church, Virginia
J. D. Coiner, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Patty L. Knott, Bridgewater, Virginia
Mrs. Betty D. Lowe, Louisville, Kentucky
Beryl D. Mealy, Coronado, California
Joe Nutt III, Staunton, Virginia
Sue Simmons, Churchville, Virginia
Nancy Sorrells, Greenville, Virginia



"Old Stone" Church Old Providence

These pictures should have accompanied the article on the history of the 250 years of Old Providence Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church at Spottswood, Augusta County, Virginia. We apologize for the omission.

"Editor"



Old Providence A.R.P. Church

Presidents of the Augusta County Historical Society

- *Dr. Richard P. Bell, 1964-1966
- *Harry Lee Nash, Jr., 1966-1967
- *Dr. Marshall M. Brice, 1967-1968
- *Dr. James Sprunt, 1968-1970
- *Richard M. Hamrick, Jr., 1970-1972
- †Joseph B. Yount III, 1972-1974
- *Mrs. William Bushman, 1974-1976
- *John M. Dunlap, Jr., 1976-1977
- Miss Mary Kathryn Blackwell, 1977-1979
- Mrs. Harry D. Hevener, 1979-1981
- *John M. McChesney, Jr., 1981-1983
- Mrs. John E. True, 1983-1985
- Edgar R. Coiner, 1985-1987
- Charles R. Chittum, 1987-1989
- *Mrs. William B. Patterson, 1989-1991
- *R. Fontaine McPherson, Jr., 1991-1993

*Charter Member of Society

†Honorary Charter Member